

1998 and then exhibited a decreasing trend to end the period from 1998-2001 (Table A17). The deflated value ranged from a low of \$90,000 in 2001 to \$197,000 (Table A17).

Over 2 million pounds of shellfish were landed in Chowan County from 1994-2001 (Table 14), however for many of these years the data are confidential resulting in the discussion of overall trends in landings with no specific values given (Table A18). Landings of shellfish fluctuated from 1994-1996 and then exhibited a declining trend from 1996-1999. Shellfish landings increased in 2000 but ended the period exhibiting a declining trend. The current and deflated values for the shellfish landings in Chowan County also exhibited the same trends as the landings.

Catfishes, river herring, hard blue crabs and gizzard shad accounted for over 75% of the total landings in Chowan County (Tables 46 and A44). Southern flounder, striped mullet and white perch also accounted for more than 3% of the total landings (Table 46). Of these species, landings of catfish were recorded in more trips and hard blue crabs had the highest CPUE (Table 46). Due to confidentiality constraints, landings of hard blue crabs and southern flounder cannot be reported for some years giving the false impression that these species were not a major component of the landings (Table A44).

Almost 75% of the total value of the landing for Chowan County is composed up of four species; southern flounder (27%), hard blue crabs (22%), catfishes (19%) and river herring (11%) (Tables 47 and A63). Other major species accounting for more than 3% of the total value include striped mullet, white perch and striped bass (Table 47). Of these species, southern flounder received the highest price per pound while striped bass received the second highest price per pound during the 1994-2001 interval (Table 47). Again, due to confidentiality constraints the value of hard blue crabs and southern flounder cannot be reported for some years giving the false impression that these species were not a major component of the total value (Table A63).

Almost 80% of the total landings for Chowan County occurred in 3 primary gear types including pound nets (29%), gill nets (28%) and pots (22%) (Tables 48 and A82). It should also be noted that fyke nets also contributed to a large portion of the total landings however these data are confidential and cannot be reported. Gill nets were utilized the most often accounting for 49% of the total number of trips while pound nets